

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-08 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-07
OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00 PRS-01 L-03 /066 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:WLSWING:GJB
APPROVED BY AF/C:LDJUNIOR
D:DLAMB (SUBS)
EUR/NE:WNEWLIN (SUBS)

-----095222 310202Z /62

O R 310128Z JAN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 024573

VALLETTA FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, BE, CG, US

SUBJECT: ACTING SECRETARY'S REPLY TO BELGIAN FOREIGN
MINISTER

REF: BRUSSELS 0881

1. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING
SECRETARY, REPLYING IN BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY, TO FOREIGN
MINISTER SIMONET:

QUOTE: DEAR MR. MINISTER: IN HIS ABSENCE FROM WASHINGTON,
SECRETARY VANCE HAS ASKED ME TO REPLY TO YOUR LETTER OF
JANUARY 13. WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE VISIT OF PRESIDENT
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MOBUTU'S SPECIAL EMISSARY AND TO A FULL DISCUSSION WITH
HIM OF THE DETAILS AND CONDITIONS OF THE RECOVERY AND
REFORM PLAN, PARTICULARLY AS IT MAY RELATE TO THE EFFORTS
OF INSTITUTIONS SUCH AS THE IMF. WE ARE, AS YOU KNOW,
COMMITTED IN PRINCIPLE TO SUPPORT A MULTILATERAL EFFORT
TO HELP MEET THE ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CRISIS FACING
ZAIRE.

WE SHARE YOUR VIEW, AS EXPRESSED IN THE ANNEX TO YOUR LETTER, THAT SIGNIFICANT REFORMS ARE ESSENTIAL, PARTICULARLY GREATER MONETARY AND BUDGETARY DISCIPLINE. THIS MIGHT

INCLUDE RECRUITMENT BY ZAIRE OF OUTSIDE SPECIALISTS TO EXERCISE SUFFICIENT AUTHORITY IN THE CENTRAL BANK AND THE FINANCE MINISTRY TO ASSURE CONTROL OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE REPATRIATION AND RESERVES, AND A FIRM UNDERTAKING TO SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE THE BUDGET. A STRONG IMF STANDBY AGREEMENT IS ALSO ESSENTIAL TO THE SUCCESS OF THE MOBUTU PLAN. WE HOPE THE SPECIAL EMISSARY WILL BE ABLE TO PROVIDE ASSURANCES ON THESE POINTS.

WE WELCOME YOUR INITIATIVE TO CONVENE A MEETING IN BRUSSELS OF REPRESENTATIVES OF GOVERNMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS INTERESTED IN THE MOBUTU PLAN. IF ZAIRE HAS BEEN ABLE TO PROVIDE US BEFOREHAND WITH THE DETAILS OF THE PLAN AND THE ASSURANCES ON CONCRETE REFORMS THAT WOULD MAKE SUCH A MEETING PRODUCTIVE, THE UNITED STATES WILL PLAN TO PARTICIPATE. SINCERELY,
WARREN CHRISTOPHER, ACTING SECRETARY UNQUOTE.

2. COMMENT: IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THIS MESSAGE GET TO THE MINISTER BEFORE ANY MEETING WITH ZAIRIAN PRESIDENT MOBUTU CONCERNING THE MOBUTU PLAN. ORIGINAL OF LETTER
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FOLLOWS BY POUCH, BEARING SIGNATURE DATE OF JANUARY 28.
VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE024573
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WLSWING:GJB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780045-0195
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978013/aaaaabzi.tel
Line Count: 96
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 71e9a1e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 BRUSSELS 881
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3724667
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ACTING SECRETARY'S REPLY TO BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER
TAGS: PFOR, EAID, BE, CG, US, (SIMONET, HENRI)
To: BRUSSELS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/71e9a1e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014